

Gun Deaths of Couple Ruled Murder, Suicide

A ruling of murder and suicide has been issued in the deaths of a 22-year-old Viet Nam veteran and an 18-year-old Fairfax County girl found shot to death early yesterday in a car parked in Arlington.

Arlington County Medical Examiner John Judson found that Airman 1.C Eugene W. Montague of the 1909th Communications Squadron, Andrews Air Force Base, shot Pamela Jean Lewis of 8704 Old Mount Vernon Road, and then himself.

Police said they were informed that Miss Lewis, a clerk at the Central Intelligence Agency, had been resisting the young airman's pleas that she marry him.

The deaths occurred about six hours before the bodies were discovered about 7 a.m. by an acquaintance of Miss Lewis in the parking lot of the Magnolia Garden Apartments, 848 South Frederick Street, the medical examiner found.

A .45-caliber revolver, of which police have not yet determined the ownership, was on Montague's lap when his body was found on the back seat of the car. The girl's body was on the front seat.

Police said the airman had been shot through the mouth, and the bullet lodged in the back of his neck. The girl was shot in the left ear and the bullet passed out the right ear, they said.

The couple reportedly had been going together before Montague left for a year's duty in Viet Nam. He reported to Andrews on Sept. 23 after returning from Viet Nam. His home was at 8212 Wolf Run Shoals Road, Clifton, Va.

Montague apparently had attempted to hang himself recently and was stopped by the girl's father, according to a report in Fairfax. A spokesman at An-

drews confirmed an apparent suicide attempt and said Montague had undergone a psychiatric examination at the base hospital, where he stayed from Oct. 8 to Oct. 14.

Police said Miss Lewis, whose father, John Lewis, is employed by the Fairfax County Park Authority, presumably was to spend the night with friends in the apartment development where the death car was found.

Her mother, Mrs. Gladys Lewis, was in tears when a reporter visited the Fairfax County home.

"Why did it happen . . . why did he do it . . . I can't understand it," she cried.

Mrs. Lewis said the CIA had instructed the family not to talk about the slaying.

It was nearly six hours after discovery of the bodies that police revealed their identities.

Detective Capt. Robert Weekly said he refused to give out any information until about 1 p.m. because he wanted relatives to identify the bodies positively.

Weekly said that by the time family members were reached and brought to Arlington, autopsies were under way at Arlington Hospital and the identification had to wait until these were completed.

Weekly added he did not consider the identification by friends sufficiently reliable. He said Montague was not in uniform, and while there were papers on the bodies, he did not consider them positive proof of identity.

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